

Introduction to the COSA Australasian Tele-Trial Model

The [Australasian Tele-Trial Model](#) has been developed by the Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA) Rural and Regional Group in consultation with clinical trial sponsors, clinicians, health administrators and regulatory bodies. The model outlines key considerations for increasing access to clinical trials for people with cancer living in rural and remote locations and the contribution of tele-health models to facilitate study activity across rural and remote locations.

The Model (Figure 1.) uses existing literature on tele-oncology to articulate a comprehensive framework for the use of tele-health technology to enable clinicians from larger centres (primary sites) to enrol, consent and treat patients on clinical trials at regional and rural centres (satellite sites) – the primary and satellite sites together are referred to as a tele-trial cluster (Figure 2.) The benefits are not limited to regional areas, with the same Model having the potential to connect larger centres (even within the same city) and improve the rate of recruitment to highly specialised clinical trials such as those for rare cancers.

Figure 1.

Australasian Tele-trial Model

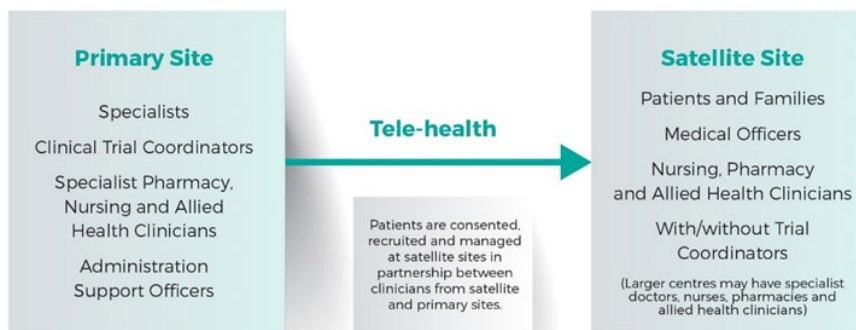
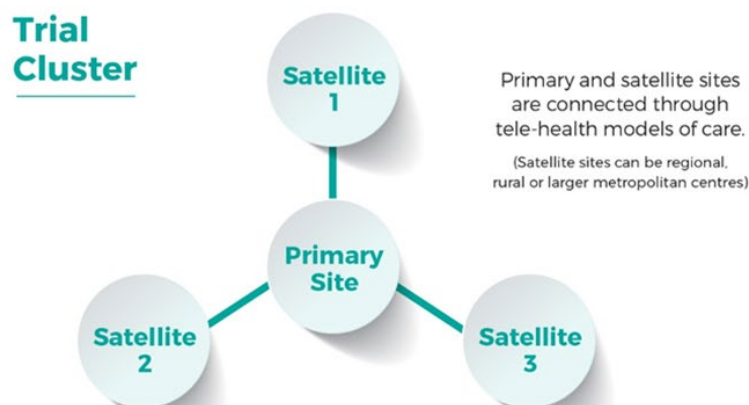


Figure 2.



The Australasian Tele-Trial Model (ATM) has been developed in consideration of the requirements for the proper conduct of clinical trials ensuring the protection of the rights and safety of trial participants and quality data for the demonstration of safe and efficacious cancer treatments.

The COSA Tele-Trial Project

COSA are leading a MTPConnect funded project to implement the Tele-Trial Model nationally. The model is being piloted at sites in Victoria, NSW and Queensland.

Tele-Trials in Queensland

Queensland are taking a state-wide approach to the adoption of the model. There is agreement within Queensland Health that Research Governance Officers adopt a centralised streamlined approach to SSA approval within a cluster and consider waiving the satellite site processing fee for research governance at satellite sites.

Tele-Trial SOPs, Cluster Subcontract and Supervision Plan

The Health Innovation, Investment and Research Office of Queensland Health in collaboration with the COSA Tele-Trial project have developed Australian ICH GCP SOPs incorporating Tele-Trials and a supervision plan template for use in Tele-Trials. A cluster sub-contract template has also been developed for use within Queensland. These documents are part of the revised Queensland Health Service Directive consultation and are available here

https://www.health.qld.gov.au/hiro/html/regu/for_researcher/gcp,research-ethics-and-governance-standard-operating-procedures-sop/_nocache

Queensland Tele-Trial Clusters

The following sites have established tele-trial clusters however any combination of sites can be used to establish a tele-trial cluster.

Primary Sites	Primary Site Clinical Lead	Satellite Sites
Gold Coast	Dr Jasotha Sanmugarajah	Toowoomba
		Townsville
Sunshine Coast	Dr Michelle Morris	Wide Bay (Hervey Bay)
Townsville	Professor Sabe Sabesan	Cairns
		Mackay
		Mt Isa
Princess Alexandra Hospital	Professor Ken O/Byrne	Toowoomba
		Ipswich

COSA Tele-Trials Project Clusters

Primary Sites	Primary Site Clinical Lead	Satellite Sites
Westmead NSW	Professor Nicholas Wilcken	Orange
St Vincent's NSW	Professor Anthony Joshua	Wagga Wagga
		Dubbo
Peter Mac VIC	Professor Mark Rosenthal	Albury Wodonga
		Bendigo
Alfred Heath VIC	Dr Andrew Haydon	Monash
		Peninsula
Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital QLD	Dr Melissa Eastgate	Rockhampton
		North Lakes